

Express Mail No.: EL 451 594 278 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Ruddy *et al.*

Application No.: 08/852,495

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filed: May 7, 1997

Examiner: VanderVegt

For: POLYMORPHISMS IN THE  
REGION OF THE HUMAN  
HEMOCHROMATOSIS GENE

Attorney Docket No.: 8907-057-999



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(5)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to examination of the concurrently filed Continued Prosecution Application and consideration of the remarks herein. The remarks address issues raised in the final Office Action mailed December 22, 1999 and the Advisory Action mailed March 31, 2000 in connection with the parent application. Enclosed herewith is:

- 1) A Continued Prosecution Application Request Transmittal;
- 2) A Petition for Extension of Time; and
- 3) Appendix A, presenting the claims as pending after entry of the instant amendment.